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CONFIDENTIAL

OLC 72-0621

18 May 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Mr. Marshall Wright, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations, re S. 3526

1. Today I talked with Mr. Marshall Wright and expressed our concern over the unilateral move by Senator Bellmon yesterday in obtaining an exemption for the Department of Agriculture from the provisions of section 504(a) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act of 1972 (S. 3526).

2. Wright defended the action by Agriculture and Bellmon on the ground that there was a lull in the debate on this bill in view of the decision not to proceed further with the Indochina fund cutoff provision and the Senators got together on it to see what amendments could be taken up under unanimous consent. I told Wright we had tried to proceed on a team basis on this section as the White House had suggested but it now appeared to be an every man for himself proposition. I said Braswell was proceeding to have Senator Stennis move for a specific exemption from section 504(a) for CIA. Wright acknowledged there had been a slip-up somewhere on the part of the Administration and also indicated it now would be more difficult for anyone to strike section 504(a) in view of Fulbright's adamant stand on this in his conversations with Bellmon.

3. I advised Wright that in response to Braswell's request we were providing Senator Stennis with a letter from the Director requesting an Agency exemption.

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Deputy Legislative Counsel

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